



# EXPLORER'S GAZETTE

Published Quarterly in Pensacola, Florida USA for the Old Antarctic Explorers Association  
Uniting All OAEs in Perpetuating the Memory of United States Involvement in Antarctica  
Volume 12, Issue 4 Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc Oct-Dec 2012



*Top Photo:  
Catamaran  
Hotel Cabanas*



*Left Photo:  
Parrots in the  
Open Court-  
yard of the  
Hotel  
Complex.*

*Credit: Dave  
Hazard*

## 6<sup>th</sup> OAEA REUNION SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA 28–30 NOVEMBER 2012

*by Marty Diller*

There was a nice turnout for the 2012 OAEA National Reunion—hey, it was southern California in late November, so for some folks not sure about making the trip, the typically mild weather was a definite attraction! And for those who did show up, San Diego's climate certainly didn't disappoint in that respect. Plus, like most reunion venues in So Cal, the Catamaran Resort Hotel (& Spa!) is beautifully

landscaped—I had a ground-floor room near the far end of the sprawling hotel grounds; and despite the long-ish walk, the meandering sidewalk through the hotel grounds to get to and from my room soon became something to look forward to—a pleasant open-air stroll along the koi ponds and lush gardens, past the outdoor pool and spa, winding between the many large guest buildings.

[Continued on page 4.](#)

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Jerry W. Marty—OAEA President

**FELLOW OAEA MEMBERS:** By the time you read this the holiday season will be over. I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and that we all can look forward to a Happy New Year.



It is with honor that I serve you as the new president of the Old Antarctic Explorers Association (OAEA), an organization steeped in Antarctic history, tradition, and held together by the dedication of its members.

Having recently returned from another deployment to the “the ice”, I can report that scientists, military personnel, and civilians continue to be excited about the 21st century scientific research being conducted on the continent supported by state-of-the-art logistics, transportation, communication capabilities, and implementation of renewable “green” energy technologies. What great topics for discussion within our organization and opportunities for expanding our horizons.

Our 2012 reunion in San Diego was a resounding success and I would like to thank the 2012 San Diego Reunion committee members for planning such an excellent event. My own personal treat was touring the USS *Midway*, re-connecting with “old” friends, and meeting new ones. Planning for the 2014 OAEA Reunion in Norfolk is already underway and I welcome any suggestions you may have over the ensuing months.

I also want to personally thank the outgoing OAEA President and Directors who have given our organization their wisdom and guidance during their tenure. Newly elected board members have an exciting year ahead of us, among which are maintaining and growing our organization to reflect the high standards and reputation the founders envisioned. Complete election results are on page 3.

Let's continue to build on the existing OAEA legacy (based on the military and civilian “ice bonds” forged in 1945–1999), look for ways to ensure that it remains an organization dedicated to sharing the Antarctic experience, not only for today but for future generations. I am personally committed to our goal of providing opportunities for educational outreach to those who have never been to Antarctica and hopefully pique their interest in pursuing careers contributing to work done “on the ice.” The opportunities are endless, and it is for this reason I hope to solicit your help and input. Any and all thoughts are welcomed. Committees will need to be chaired and staffed, plans made for events and activities; ongoing

administrative efforts maintained—all necessary to keep our organization going. Please consider how you may want to help out in the coming year.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Jerry W. Marty*

OAEA President

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**GROWLERS & BERGY BYTES**

*Feature Stories, Odds & Ends, Collected, Compiled, & Written by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker*

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**DISCLAIMER STATEMENT**

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**Chaplain** – Denis Casey  
**Historian** – Billy-Ace Baker  
**Parliamentarian** – Jim Eblen

## 2012 OAEA Election Results

by Billy-Ace Baker

*Editor's Note: The 2012 Election results listed below were published earlier on the bulk email services (Topica and Yahoogroups) for those members who have Internet access.*

The results of the 2012 OAEA election have been verified and accepted by OAEA President Jim Heffel and he asked that I publish the results to the membership.

On behalf of the Officers and Directors, I extend my congratulations to all the candidates elected/re-elected to office.

A special thank you is also extended to those who ran for office, but were not elected. The association would cease to exist if people like you did not step forward and volunteer to help govern the OAEA.

And last of all thanks to the 2012 Election Committee and to Bob Gaboury for volunteering to serve as the Chair of the Election Committee. Once again, under his leadership the election campaign was very successful. 1400 ballots were mailed out to Regular Members. Of those 550 were received by the Election Committee.

**PRESIDENT**

**JERRY MARTY (Winner)**

John Weihaupt  
John Wood

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**LAURA SNOW (Winner)**

Alfred Stuart  
Richard Cameron

**DIRECTOR - 3**

**WAYNE GERMANN (Winner)**

**THOMAS HENDERSON (Winner)**

**WILLIAM SMITH\* (see note)**

Charles Lagerbom  
Robert Conner  
Robert Buettner

**NOTE:** OAEA Director James Landy died on 22 November. In accordance with OAEA By-Laws the person with the next highest number of votes in an OAEA election preceding the resignation or death of a serving Director will be appointed by the OAEA President to fill the vacancy. Accordingly OAEA President Jim Heffel ratified William Smith's appointment at the San Diego reunion.



**2012 Reunion From page 1**

Just outside the lobby area of the main building (which also houses the restaurant, bar and meeting rooms) on the way to the guest rooms, are the outdoor diurnal roosts (cover photo) of some of the more exotic birds that share the hotel grounds with the guests: two Blue-Gold Macaws named *Bianchi* and *Mercer*, Greenwing Macaw *Cornell*, Lilac-Crowned Amazon *Scooter*, and



**Catamaran Entrance**

*Chadwick* the Cockatoo. All five are very colorful large parrots; *Cornell* weighs three pounds and measures two feet from head to tail, while the smallest at 13 inches is *Scooter*. There are also humming-

birds, Mallard ducks, and other rare and exotic waterfowl populating the grounds in and around the large ponds teeming with koi. Elsewhere in this issue, you will find that on Day one of the reunion the 2012 Reunion Committee arranged for attendees to meet a totally different type of exotic waterfowl. Throughout, the hotel grounds are landscaped with many different varieties of palm trees and bamboo, and many other rare plants and foliage from tropical climates around the world. The friendly and helpful Catamaran staff made our stay that much more enjoyable.

**MEETINGS**

At every OAEA reunion, there is a turnover of the elected officers that occurs at the adjournment of the General Membership meeting. This year marked the end of President Jim Heffel's two-term stint, with the election of Jerry Marty (Long Beach, CA; Holmes & Narver 1969-70, 1974-78; NSF 1994-

2009; Lockheed-Martin, 2012-present). Other new officers include Director Wayne Germann (Slidell, LA; VX-6, 1967-69) and Director Tom Henderson (Slingerlands, NY; USGS, 1979-80, 1981-82, 1997-98; 1982 w/o South Pole Station). Laura Snow was re-elected as Vice President. We all were

shocked and deeply saddened to learn that Director Jim Landy (Pensacola, FL; VXE-6, 1969-74, 1976-81) had passed away the week before the reunion. Jim Heffel, in one of his last official acts as OAEA President, appointed Bill Smith (Las Vegas, NV; USARP 1958-60) to fill the two years remaining in Jim's term. Bill was the next highest vote getter for Director in the 2012 election, after Wayne and Tom. Outgoing Directors are Buz Dryfoose (2000-12) and Dave Hazard (2006-12).

At the first Officer's meeting on Day one, the Board of Directors heard and accepted the FY-2012 Treasurer's report (published in this issue), and reports by the chairperson of these committees: Election, Reunion, Merchandise, and Scholarship. The most notable items of new business at the reunion were:

- The New England Chapter volunteered to host the eighth OAEA national reunion in 2016. Watch future issues of the *Gazette* for info on the specific location and date for this event. Members of the 2014 reunion committee from the OAEA Tidewater Group were present to provide brochures and other details for their event, which will occur at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel on 12-14 November 2014.
- It was reported that lower reunion attendance this year forced the reunion committee to cut back on some niceties they were hoping to offer attendees. Chairman Jim Maddox acknowledged that the reunion committee realized a shortfall in funds needed to cover reunion expenses. During Board discussion, the feasibility of the OAEA combining with other Antarctic organizations to hold reunions was suggested as a way of boosting attendance. However, no immediate action on this alternative is being considered.
- As a result of a related discussion, President Jerry Marty has made an appeal for volunteer assistance from anyone within the OAEA member ranks who may have a legal



**Sign Posts in the Hotel Courtyard**

background and could offer advice to future reunion committees who enter contracts with reunion host venues. In addition, the Board of Directors is preparing written guidelines to describe the duties and responsibilities of the OAEA Reunion Committee Chairperson.

**REUNION MINUTES**

Details on officer and committee reports and other OAEA business conducted at the reunion can be found in the minutes of the two Officer's meetings and the General Membership meeting, which are published separately and available on the OAEA website for viewing and printing.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Jerry Kooyman, and John Wright were the featured guest speakers. Jerry has submitted a few words about his presentation on the next page. A review of John Wright's South Pole Traverse book can be found on page 14. Although she was not a guest speaker a lady from SeaWorld showed up with a Magellanic penguin. The penguin was quite a Ham and he not only had his lady handler, but also had his own security guard.



**The SeaWorld Magellanic Penguin & His Handler**

**MEMORY BOOK**

*by Billy-Ace Baker*

A reunion memory book is being prepared for sale to the attendees and other interested members. I hope to receive some candid photos taken by attendees. As it stands now I have only received a few photos to augment those taken by the memory book photographers at the banquet. I especially need photos of the tours that attendees went on. If you attended the reunion and took photos that you have not sent to me please do so ASAP so that I can screen them for the memory book. The 2012 reunion memory book will be dedicated to those OAEA members who died since the last reunion.



**Memory Book Photographers**

**RAFFLE**

Linda Gaboury was in charge of the raffle. According to Linda 39 "prizes" were donated for the raffle that was held as part of the banquet activities. Several items were donated by vendors as is required by the reunion committee. Some of the items were donated by members who were unable to attend the reunion. One of the items provided by a vendor was a hand carved model of a LC-130 Hercules aircraft.

Linda reported that \$960 was collected from the sale of tickets for the raffle. The LC-130 had the most tickets on it. The person who won the Herk turned around and sold it to someone who wanted it real bad.

Faith Maybury drew the raffle tickets. The Disc Jockey was drafted to call out the ticket numbers and Linda provided entertainment by prancing around the tables showing off the items in each raffle.



**Hand-Carved LC-130 Model**

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the raffles and to everyone who helped out with the raffle including ticket sellers, watch-standers to guard the raffle tables when there was no one in the Hospitality Room, and anyone else who helped.



**Linda Gaboury Raffle Chairwoman**

**TOURS**

There were three tours offered to attendees and the USS Midway museum tour proved to be the most popular. A total of 87 attendees signed up for the tours. 53 signed up for the USS Midway tour, 25 signed up for the Air and Space Museum Restoration Facility, and only 9 signed up for the shopping tour. There were 11 cancellations or no-shows.



**USS Midway Museum**



**USS Midway Plaque**

## SEALS AND PENGUINS

*By Jerry Kooyman*

On 29 November I gave a talk to about 100 of the attendees at the OAEA 2012 Reunion in San Diego. It was a narrative of my work in Antarctica since the 1960s when I began with the first study of diving behavior in a marine mammal. The Weddell seal was an ideal animal for the study because of its gentle behavior, and habit of diving under fast ice. This was the first time a time/depth recorder (TDR) had been used to obtain dive profiles. Over the years, numerous studies of Weddell seals and other animals were conducted using the original protocol of releasing the animal at a pre-cut hole, which the seal or

penguin was obligated to continue to use for breathing. While at the surface the TDR, or other types of instruments, could be removed and replaced with another. The uniqueness of this opportunity afforded by the fast ice conditions that prevailed until December in McMurdo Sound make the Sound a very special place for a variety of projects. Details of my studies on seals were disclosed before presenting the second phase of the work on diving animals in the Antarctic.



**Emperor Penguin**

From the mid-1980s up to the present I have conducted behavior, physiology and population studies of emperor penguins. They began with the same dive hole protocol, at the first Penguin Ranch anywhere, and evolved into more remote field studies using electronic TDRs and satellite transmitters. These were some of the first free-ranging studies of a bird. In the course of that work I founded a study site at Cape Washington that has had nearly continuous projects since. One of the amazing facts discovered about the emperor penguins was that they use all of the Ross Sea for meeting the needs of their life cycle. During the breeding season, while nurturing the chick, they feed about 100 km offshore. Just before the molt they travel across the Ross Sea to its eastern edge where they remain until after completing the molt. They then spend about 2.5 months feeding and fattening as they travel back to the breeding sites of the western Ross Sea. In summary, both species are deep hunters diving to depths ranging routinely from about 200 to 400m with the occasional maximum dive greater than 500m for the emperor penguins and deeper than 600m for the Weddell seals. Both have long duration diving capacities of 20 minutes plus for the emperor penguins and nearly an hour and a half for the Weddell seals. These raise many questions not only about what are they hunting for, but how do they tolerate the pressure and the extreme hypoxia.



**Mother Seal & Pup**



**Jerry Kooyman**

# OAEA

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi Billy,

As always you have done a fantastic job with the *Gazette*. However, from the 'Letters to the Editor' section, I agree with Kiwi Pam, that you should get the other eye fixed.

Rob (aka Face) Buettner

Billy-Ace:

I just got an email from Eugene Whitehead, and the reason he wasn't at the reunion in San Diego, was that his brother Ralph passed away during that time frame. As you probably remember Eugene, always had his brother with him at the previous OAEA reunions.

Woodeye the Good Guy

Hi Billy-Ace,

Thanks for publishing my article in the *Gazette*. I noticed you dropped Richard Navarre's name on the Photograph of the 'Campbell Island Welcomes You' sign. I talked with Dick a few weeks ago, he lives in Washington State. I've been on the road for four weeks now and just arrived in Invercargill, meeting the Campbell Island team here; they're just starting to arrive. We sail on Monday morning.

Gene Spinelli

*Editor's Note: Gene is referring to his story: Campbell Island Amateur Radio Expedition that was in the Jul-Sep Gazette. I left Navarre's name off the caption of subject photo (on page 6) on purpose to see if anyone would catch it.*

Hey Billy-Ace,

Excellent *Gazette*. I especially liked the article about Doc Abbot. Thank you for beefing up my book review—it needed it. See you at the December GCG Chapter meeting.

Laura Snow

Dear Editor:

Just a note to make a correction: I was listed in the *Gazette* Vol 12 Issue 2 (Apr-Jun) as a new member. My first name was incorrect—it is spelled Rodger instead of Roger, and also I am listed as an Annual Member—I paid for a Lifetime Membership.

Thanks for your attention to this matter and your good work on behalf of the Association.

Rodger D. Nichols

*Editor's Note: Both mistakes were my bad. Sorry about that.*

Billy-Ace:

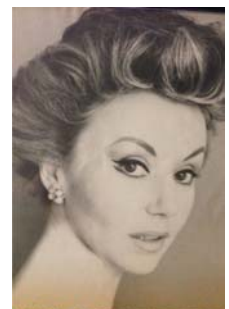
Thanks for forwarding the article on Mini Welfeld's death. I wasn't on her cruise, or I would remember her. Notice the headstone for Shackleton with liquid stains on the stone and the discolored snow beneath. I expect those are the result of virtually all tour ship rituals... Shackleton was known to tip a few drinks in his day, so passengers are given small cups of rum or equivalent when they enter the cemetery, and after a suitable introduction to "The Boss," some of that rum is poured over the grave. I have given the eulogy many times, and poured many a cup for "The Boss." I suspect she was on an 'early' cruise to South Georgia, because that is an unusual amount of snow in the scene. November visits are common for photographers when they visit the king penguin colonies.

Spletts

(aka John Splettsoeser)



Mini At Shackleton's Grave



Mini Before & After

*Editor's Note: I thought the stains were urine. Mini Welfeld visited Shackleton's grave in 2000. She was a runway model in the 1950s and 60s. Her death is listed in the 'In Memory' column in this edition.*

Billy:

It was good seeing you again at the reunion in San Diego.

I appreciate you sharing the news with me about Doc Abbot! I went back and read the *Gazette* article you wrote, which was a great tribute to this fine man and officer.

I had the pleasure of meeting Doc on a couple of occasions while I assigned to the Sixth Fleet staff. He would come to visit his son, Steve, who was the 6th Fleet Commander at the time. I was the Assistant Admin Officer for the staff. Doc had a wonderful sense of humor and was so full of fun! He completely surprised his son at a hail and farewell held at one of our local recreation facilities, appearing with the 6th fleet band disguised in a wig and sunglasses singing some crazy old aviator song to his son. It was quite a moment!

Having finished my school semester, I took some time to go back and read some of the *Gazette* issues during the past year, and I really enjoyed reading them! The quality and work of your efforts truly shows your love for one of the last great adventures on Earth. God bless you! Thank you for all you do!

"VaVaVoom" Valerie Russell Johnston  
DF 77-78 Summer Support

*Editor's Note: Thanks for the atta-boys. And I concur; Doc was a great guy and an outstanding Navy officer.*



**VaVaVoom From the DF-77 Cruise Book**

Vik (aka Billy-Ace):

Your *Gazette* simply gets better and better. The quality of the pictures is very good. The writing is bloody brilliant, and very entertaining. All in all, it's rapidly shaping up to be a world-class publication  
Black Jack of Ballarat

*Editor's Note: I try hard.*

Billy-Ace:

No big deal, but in the Jul-Sep *Gazette* you printed Stan Betts's article about the Antarctic function which I hosted last July. All good and well but it was NOT an Antarctic Society function. I invite Antarcticans of my own choosing. I Probably invite well over 200, but only a hundred plus show up, nearly all being scientists or support people who have been there multiple times. It is a three-day affair, featuring the best of seafood cuisine, with at least one whole day devoted to talks by attendees on what they did or are doing in Antarctica.

Paul Dalrymple

*Editor's Note: That was my title for the article and not the title that the author used. Because Paul is Mister Antarctic Society I just assumed that it was a society function. And we all know the old saying about "assume".*

Hi Billy-Ace:

Just a note regarding the OAEA Museum Coordination Committee article in the latest *Explorer's Gazette*. The Antarctic Society is also tackling this issue of what to do with all the wonderful memorabilia and artifacts collected during our members' Antarctic experiences. Unlike most museums, the Antarctic Society takes the point of view that all material is of true historic significance and will become even more so after time. As a result, we have embarked on a scanning project to digitize images, slides, video, audio, documents, and other ephemera such as letters, journals, philatelic material, and maps. Much of this material is destined to go to our website at [www.antarctican.org](http://www.antarctican.org). We have also begun acting as a repository for members' collections until a more permanent, suitable site can be found. These collections have been properly cataloged and scrupulously stored in an archive-safe environment in my home. Efforts are currently underway with one possible eventual destination at the University of Maine. The Antarctic Society recognizes the importance of all participants and their experiences with Antarctica and is working to help preserve them for future generations. Just thought other OAEA members would like to know, if interested.

Charles H. Lagerbom  
President Antarctic Society  
16 Peacedale Drive  
Northport, Maine 04849 USA  
[clagerbom@rsu20.org](mailto:clagerbom@rsu20.org)

*Editor's Note: Although it has been the OAEA policy to advise members to retain their memorabilia until a suitable repository can be identified by the OAEA Museum Coordination Committee, it is each individuals choice to do what he/she wishes to do with their collections.*

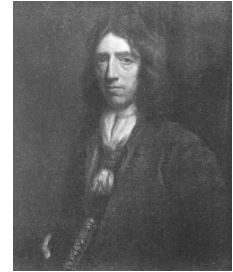




# THIS QUARTER IN HISTORY

*Ghost written by Black Jack of Ballarat  
for Lionel Wafer*

From the Second Edition of John Stewart's  
*Antarctica: an Encyclopedia*, 2011.



**Lionel Wafer**

**OCTOBER:** There is much confusion about the origins of Dobrowolski, the Polish station in the Bunger Hills. It was actually a Soviet IGY base to start with—opened in October 1956. They called it Oazis back then, which is Russian for Oasis. It was established entirely by air. The first station

leader was Per Dmitriyevich Tselishev. The station consisted of two buildings with a crew of eight. On 23 January 1959 the Russians turned it over to the Poles, and it became A. B. Dobrowolski Station (named after Antoni Dobrowolski). It continued to be occupied for a few weeks only thereafter. On 22 February 1979 the station was reactivated for a short time. The concrete pillar erected by the First Polish Antarctic Expedition at Dobrowolski Station in January 1959 for gravity measurements, and the magnetic observatory at the station with plaque in memory of the opening of Oazis Station in 1956, are recognized as Antarctic Historic Sites.

The Soviet Union became interested in the Bunger Hills again in the late 1980s, and built a new station, Oazis-2, a few hundred yards west of Dobrowolski. The station was used for austral summer visits up to the mid-1990s.



**Arctowski/Dobrowolski  
Commemorative Coin**

**NOVEMBER:** On 22 November 1956 TSGT Richard Patton USAF made the first parachute jump at the geographic South Pole. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and a presidential citation. It was the 32<sup>nd</sup> jump of his career. Patton made his jump in connection with the airdrops of construction material that started on 26 November 1956.



**TSGT Richard Patton USAF**

**DECEMBER:** On 23 December 1966 AE2 Jim Thomann, USN made the first freefall parachute jump at the geographic South Pole. He was the first Navy jumper to do so and first member of the Para-rescue team to do so and first free fall delayed jump. It was to commemorate his 500th jump. The jump was made from 16,000 MSL, 6000 AGL. The ground temperature was minus 40 degrees.



**Jim Thomann at the  
South Pole after his  
record making jump**

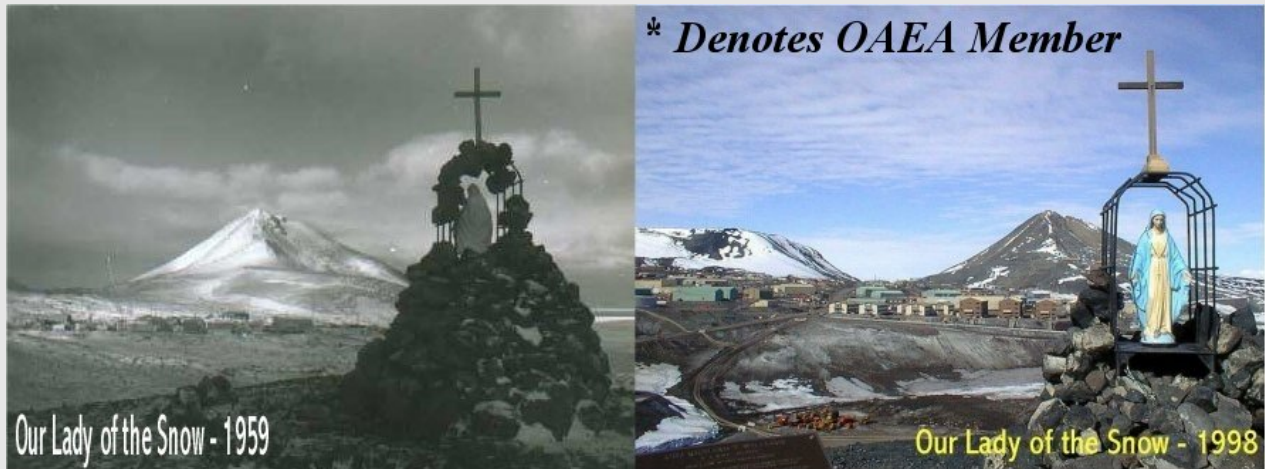
*Editor's Note: On 7 December 1997 six extreme adventurers formed the first private sky-diving expedition over the geographic South Pole. Two were Norwegians (Trond Jacossen and Morten Havorsen), who did a tandem jump, using one parachute between them and freefalling to 4500 feet before opening; three were Americans (Michael Kearns, Ray Miller, and Steve Mulholland), and the sixth man was an Austrian (Hans Resack). Resack, Miller, and Mulholland died when they hit the surface, their chutes never opened. (They probably died of oxygen starvation while freefalling). Mulholland was a former USAP contractor and worked at South Pole Station three summers as a carpenter. In accordance with Article IV, Section VI of the OAEA By-Laws Steve Muholland was inducted into the OAEA as a Memorial Member by OAEA BOD Resolution Oxnard Number 10 effective 2 February 2006.*

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**Sky Diving Group Pose Before Their Fatal Jump**



## IN MEMORY

OAE Verna Audrey Azis, 83, died on 28 September 2012, in the Village of Humber Heights, Canada. Verna visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Larry Joseph Ballard, 71, died on 28 February 2012, in West Alexandria, OH. Joseph served on the USS *Edisto* as a Commissaryman during DF-61 and 62.

OAE Richard "Dick" Barwick, 83, died on 9 November 2012, in Canberra, Australia. Dick's first trip to Antarctica was in the summer of 1956–57 as part of the Trans Antarctic Expedition Support Team. He returned the following summer as a member of NZARP. During the summer of 1958–59 he was part of the Victoria University research team in the Dry Valleys. Barwick Valley is named in his honor.

OAE Jim Lewis Benton, 33, died on 22 October 2012 in Williamsburg, VA. Jim visited Antarctica as a tourist.

\*OAE Trevior Robert Boyd, 85, died on 4 June 2012, in Brisbane Australia. Trev wintered over with ANARE as a weather observer, amateur radio operator on Macquarie Island in 1950.

OAE Michael Brashears, 66, died on 28 October 2012, in Tularosa, NM. Michael was an ITT contractor. He wintered-over at Siple Station as the cook in 1982. He spent four seasons at South Pole Station as head chef. He was the cook, radio operator, and medic on the recovery of 321 at D-59. In the early 1990s he was the cook on an Antarctic cruise ship.

OAE Mary Joy Brooks, 82, died on 4 October 2012, in Eastham, MA. Mary visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE TSGT Jack Ellis Buchanan, USAF (Ret), 78, died on 15 September 2012, in Arlington, WA. Jack served in Antarctica.

OAE William Lee Cain, 76, died on 2 October 2012, in Panama City, FL. William aka "Buck Eye" was a USGS Cartographer and served at McMurdo during the 1981 summer season.

OAE Marie Elizabeth Christ, 95, died on 7 November 2012, in Brevard County, TX. Marie visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE George E. Coldsmith, 84, died on 24 November 2012, in Chambersburg, PA. George served in the Navy during Highjump.

OAE Joseph Henry Daly, 75, died on 4 October 2012, in Jacksonville, FL. Joseph served at Little America V (LAV) as a Navy Electrician.

\*OAE HMC Robert L. Dinsmore, USN (Ret), 76, died on 17 September 2012, in Daytona Beach, FL. Bob wintered-over at McMurdo during DF-71.

OAE AECM Warren Ware Downs, USCG (Ret), 74, died on 25 November 2012, in Fanning Springs, FL. Warren served with the Coast Guard as a rescue swimmer.

\*Muriel Thomson Dufek, 100, died on 7 October 2012, in Surfside, FL. Muriel was the widow of RADM George Dufek the first DF Task Force Commander.

OAE Charles S. Dziura, USAF (Ret), 82, died on 5 December 2012, in Warner, NH. Charles served at South Pole Station as a USWB Meteorologist during the summer of DF-68 (1967–68), he wintered-over at Byrd Station during DF-69 (1968–69). Dziura Nunatak is named in his honor.

OAE Kathryn M. Fay, 85, died on 9 November 2012, in Vancouver, WA. Kathryn visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Albert Place Fegley, 83, died on 30 October 2012, in Duluth, MN. Albert deployed to LAV with a US Army team during DF-I (1955–56).

OAE Stephen M. Francis, 79, died on 9 June 2012, in Maui, HI. Stephen served in the Coast Guard during the IGY.

OAE YNCS Joyce Bino Fury, USNR (Ret), 97, died on 16 September 2012, in Spokane Valley, WA. Joyce visited Antarctica as a tourist in 1995.

OAE Barbara Ann Goode, 84, died on 4 November 2012. Barbara made five trips to Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE ABSC Elmer Kenneth Grey Sr., USN (Ret), 82, died on 27 November 2012. Elmer served in VX-6 during DF-I.

\*OAE HMCS Winters B. Hames, Jr., USN (Ret), 92, died on 11 October 2012, in Laconia, NH. Winters served with VX-6 during DF-II. He was also a member of the OAEA NE Chapter and the ADFA.

OAE Paul Allin Heifner, 77, died on 31 October 2012, in Livingston, TX. Paul wintered-over during DF-61 (1960–61) at McMurdo as an AG3/AG2.

OAE Thomas E. Hogarth, 69, died on 22 September 2012, in Hopewell Junction, NY. Thomas served in Antarctica as a C-121 Navigator.

OAE Charles S. Hogue, USN (Ret), 77, died on 3 November 2012, in Tampa, FL. Charles visited Antarctica to run in a marathon.

OAE Sir Rex Hunt, 86, died on 11 November 2012. Rex was Governor of the Falkland Islands and High Commissioner of the British Antarctic Territory when Argentina invaded the Falklands in 1982 and served until 1985.

OAE Stuart R. Jaffee, MD, 83, died on 5 November 2012, in Worcester, MA. Stuart visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Nicholas Johnson, 41, died on 28 November 2012, in Seattle, WA. Nick spent five summers and two winters in Antarctica with the USAP contractor. He was the author of *Big Dead Place*.

OAE COL Kenneth Wayne Korb, USA (Ret), 67, died on 9 October 2012, in Helotes, TX. Kenneth served in Antarctica with the Army.

OAE PH1 David J. Kruse, USN (Ret), 50, died on 27 September 2012, in Des Moines, IO. David made three deployments to Antarctica with NSF.

OAE Vito La Bellarte, Jr., 75, died on 17 December 2012, in Seattle, WA. Vito served in the Coast Guard during DF-II.

\*OAE CAPT James Meredith Lacey, USN (Ret), 73, died on 30 September 2012, in McKeesport, PA. James served in VX-6 as a navigator during DF-65.

\*OAE ADCS James "Jim" Landy, USN (Ret), 64, died on 22 November 2012, in Pensacola, FL. Jim served in VX-6 as an aircraft mechanic from 1970–74, and in VXE-6 as an LC-130 Flight Engineer from 1977-81. He was on the OAEA BOD and was the Vice President of the OAEA Gulf Coast Group Chapter.

OAE Reginald Thomas "Pat" Lee, 90, died on 8 June 2012, in Parramatta, Australia. Pat served in ANARE as a tractor driver wintering at Mawson in 1957 and 1966. Lee Island was named in his honor.

\*OAE David Milo Leib, died on 4 January 2012, in Bisbee, AZ. David served as a meteorologist in ASA Det C as a LT during 1971-73.

\*OAE William H. Littlewood, 88, died on 21 December 2012, in Gaithersburg, MD. Bill served as an oceanographer on USN ships during the IGY (1955–59). Littlewood Nunataks are named in his honor. He was also a member of the ADFA.

OAE CAPT Philip C. Lutzi, USCG (Ret), 83, died on 22 October 2012, in East Lyme, CT. Philip served on the USCGC *Eastwind* during DF-60.

OAE Margaret Mahy, 75, died on 23 July 2012, in New Zealand. Margaret was the New Zealand Antarctic Arts Fellow for the 1988–89 summer season.



OAE LCDR John Mattson, USN (Ret), 78, died on 27 September 2012. John Served as the Planning Officer at McMurdo.

OAE John Alan MacDonald, 71, died on 14 December 2012, in Hoteo North, New Zealand. John made eleven trips to Antarctica as a member of NZARP. He wintered over at McMurdo during DF-64 as a USARP biologist. MacDonald Nunataks are named in his honor.

OAE Renton Mitchell, 86, died on 10 November 2012, in Solvang, CA. Renton visited Antarctica as a crewmember on a whaling ship.

OAE William "Bill" Monkhouse, 90, died on 13 August 2012, in South Australia. Bill wintered over at Macquarie Island in 1948.

OAE Raymond Dale "Bud" Munkres, 66, died on 4 December 2012, in Midwest City, OK. Bud served as an pilot in VXE-6.

OAE Bruce "Gangles" Neilson, 81, died on 8 August 2012, in Vale, Australia. Gangles wintered-over at Wilkes Station in 1966 as a radio operator.

OAE Alan Douglas Parker, 76, died on 26 August 2012, in South Yarra, Australia. Alan wintered over at Macquarie Island as a carpenter in 1965 and at Davis Station in 1977. Parker Peak is named in his honor.

OAE Neal Elmer Quaas, 67, died on 4 October 2012, in Oostburg, MS. Neal served on the USS *Atka*.

OAE LTCOL Ernest T. Randall, USAF (Ret), 72, died on 10 October 2012, in Wash, DC. Ernest was a C-141 pilot and flew missions to McMurdo.

OAE Robert William Roberts, PhD, 89, died on 8 October 2012, in Fairlawn, OH. Robert visited Antarctica as a tourist.

OAE Charles Curtis "Curt" Sheffield, 72, died on 25 December 2012. Curt served with NSFA.

OAE Arthur Gene Smith, 89, died on 10 October 2012, in Nassau Bay, TX. Joyce H. Verrill Smith, his wife of 67 years, died in April 2012. Arthur and Joyce visited Antarctica as tourists.

OAE LCDR Wayne Smith, USCG (Ret), 73, died on 16 October 2012, on Whidbey Island, WA. Wayne visited Antarctica twice as a tourist.

OAE Roger B. Swanson, 81, died on 25 December 2012, in Minneapolis, MN. Roger was the owner and captain of a sailing vessel that he named *Cloud Nine*. In this capacity he circumnavigated the globe three times and made two trips to Antarctica.

OAE Lawrence Walter "Wally" Tarr, 88, died on 10 June 2012, in New Zealand. Wally was the aircraft mechanic for the Fuchs trans-Antarctic crossing during the 1956-57 season.

OAE Dr. Howard C. Taylor, MD 83, died on 23 October 2012, in Jericho, VT. Howard was a member of the first Navy crew to winter-over at South Pole Station as the station doctor. He was a member of the ADFA. Taylor Spur is named in his honor.

OAE MAJ Waldron E. "Tom" Thomas, USMC (Ret), 91, died on 26 September 2012, in San Jose, CA. Tom served on RADM Byrd's security detail during DF-I.

OAE Reinhold A. Ullrich, MD, 85, died on 04 October. in Rolling Hills, CA. Reinhold visited Antarctica as a marathon runner.

OAE James Franklin Watson, USN (Ret), 85, died on 30 November 2012, in Bartlett, AR. James served during Highjump on the USS *Philippine Sea*.

OAE Mimi Welfeld, 88, died on 14 November 2012, in Palm Beach, CA. Mimi visited Antarctica in 2000 as a tourist. (See Letter to the Editor from John Spletstoesser on page 7)

OAE Robert A. Wharton, 60, died on 19 September 2012, in Rapid City, SD. Robert served as USARP grantee and made 11 deployments to Antarctica. Wharton Creek is named in his honor.

\*OAE LCDR Donald Williams, USN (Ret), 78, died on 26 December 2012, in Plymouth, WI. Don served in NSFA in 1961.

Jennifer Wilson, 76, died on 22 June 2012, in Australia. Jennifer was the President of the Australia Antarctic Family and Friends Association.

\*OAE LCDR Victor Young, USN (Ret), 94, died on 16 July 2012, in Huntsville, AL. Victor served with MCB(Special) during DF-I and II. He wintered-over at Little America V during DF-I. Young Head is named in his honor. Victor was a member of the OAEA GCG Chapter. He was also a member of the ADFA.

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Denis Casey—OAEA Chaplain

**AGREE TO DISAGREE**

The noted lecturer John R. Powers PhD claims that we are ninety nine percent alike. We are actually much more alike than we realize as we all want basically the same things. Happiness, good health, a safe and loving world for our children to grow up in, and the freedom to live our lives as we choose.

But it is that one percent difference that makes each of us special. Unfortunately the great sadness is that many of

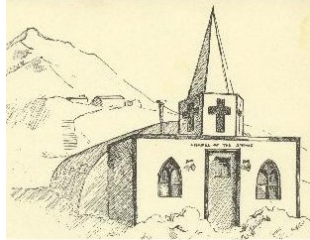
us instead of enjoying our differences, use them for discrimination, outright hatred, and sometimes violence.

While the Sacred Scriptures tell us to love our neighbor often there is so much antagonism in peoples hearts that it does not allow them to even consider doing it.

We don't have to like someone to live in harmony with them. Like it or not we need to remind ourselves that they have as much right to their views as we do. Maybe we may have to remind ourselves that labels are for

bottles, cartons, and cans—not people.

The point then of this article is that we must agree to disagree.



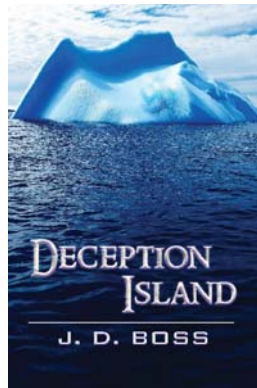
**DECEPTION ISLAND**

*Reviewed by Billy-Ace*

**BOOK REVIEW**

*Deception Island.* A novel by Judy Boss, 2011 Publish America, 298 pages, \$19.99 (paperback).

*Deception Island* is available at: [www.antarcticconnection.com](http://www.antarcticconnection.com) as well as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). The best place to buy a hard copy is from the author's website at: [www.judyboss.com](http://www.judyboss.com). Ebooks are available on Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com for \$9.95



There's a pendant with seemingly magic powers, a frozen body, and some strange antagonists to deal with before all the pieces are put together.

The author mixes fantasy and reality to create suspense and intrigue at every turn.

While at an archaeology dig in Afghanistan, our heroine Rachel St. Claire, an evolutionary anthropologist, comes across a pendant with strange shifting symbols. Not long after, she receives an urgent call from her colleague, Dr. Grace McAllister, who insists that she come with her and her nephew, Trevor, a handsome polar geophysicist, to Antarctica to examine an unusual body that was found in an ice cave.

Before Rachel can respond, bandits sent by the ruthless Major General Braun storm the site. Just as they are about to seize Rachel, a helicopter appears with Trevor who has been sent by his Aunt to bring Rachel to Antarctica. Trevor soon falls in love with Rachel who, unfortunately, already has a fiancé. Little does she know that her fiancé is part of a group of bioterrorists who are engaged in secret genetic experiments at the abandoned Nazi base under the ice who are after the pendant and Rachel.

**THE ISLAND**

**Background**—Deception Island is one of the places that makes the South Shetland Islands unique. The geological makeup and activity of this island makes it a popular destination with geologists and volcanologists. There is no port so Cruise ships can't dock at Deception Island. Transportation is provided by inflatable zodiac boat, and weather conditions usually allow for a landing. The natural harbor is well protected from passing icebergs that are common in this part of the world. The large harbor came into being when part of a large volcanic crater crashed into the sea. A Deception Island cruise is good for those who prefer interacting with nature without a lot of man-made attractions.

§§

**THE BOOK**

*Deception Island* is a novel about an evolutionary anthropologist who becomes involved in secret genetic experiments being performed by bioterrorists in an abandoned World War II Nazi base beneath the Antarctic ice.

The book is fast-paced and jumps from one adventure to another with a bit of a love story thrown in.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Judy Boss is the author of several top selling college textbooks. Before pursuing a career in academia, she worked for the Nova Scotia Museum. She is a volunteer with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. She is an avid traveler and her favorite destination is Antarctica. She lives in Rhode Island with her family and her Corgi Mindi. Judy is a member of the OAEA NE Chapter.



*Judy on Cruise Ship*

# BLAZING ICE

## Pioneering The Twenty-First Century's Road To The South Pole

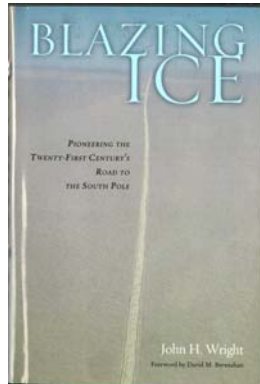
*Reviewed by Elaine Hood  
Antarctic Support Contract*

### BOOK REVIEW

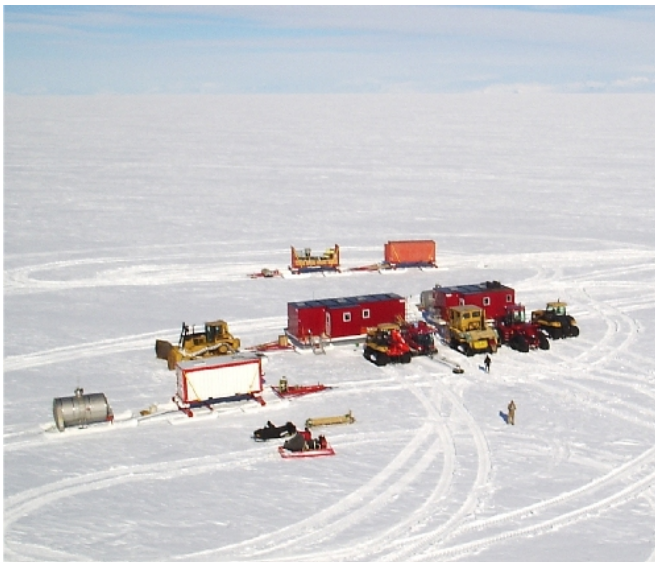
*Blazing Ice: Pioneering the Twenty-first Century's Road to the South Pole* By John Wright. Foreword by David Bresnahan. Published by Potomac Books, 2012, 290 pages.

"It was hard, but even in the last year of our project my boss's boss stunned me when he casually dismissed our efforts, reducing them to: "It's just a matter of time and distance."

"Well," I countered dryly, nonplussed, "there is the small matter of terrain." —(Page 116)



John Wright's book, *Blazing Ice*, a gripping description of the historic traverse from McMurdo to South Pole Station and back again, pulls the incredulous reader along on the multi-year endeavor. The traverse was an idea the US Antarctic Program (USAP) had been considering for years, but had yet to be done. The National Science Foundation finally declared a route should be accomplished in three years with proven technology—tractors and sleds you could purchase ready-made—nothing should be specially designed.



**Traverse Camp. This Photo Was Taken By A Radio Controlled Model Airplane. The Pilot, John Penney, Stands At The Lower Right And Captured The Photo From A Wing Mounted Camera On His Model Airplane.**

That "small matter of terrain" held hidden crevasses, sastrugi, snow swamps, rolling hills, and moving ice sheets. With descriptive detail, the author takes the reader through the excitement, and tedium, of the four years it took him to establish the Proof-of-Concept Traverse.



**Photo by Russ Alger 2002  
Most Of The Crevasses Were Numbered, But A Few Were Given Names. This One Was Mungo. This Photo Shows John Wright Retrieving Gear From The Top Of The Crevasse Bridge After Mungo Was Blasted.**

The first year, 2002–03 had the traverse team busy in the Shear Zone, a 3.5-mile long area just three hours south of McMurdo Station. It was a crevasse-riddled field where every crevasse had to first be discovered, its snow bridge then dynamited to expose the underlying hole, and then the crevasse explored by a mountaineer who would assess its size and the amount of snow that would be needed to fill it. Meanwhile, others would be looking for a "snow farm" where they could safely scrape up enough snow to fill the crevasses, and then compact the snow so the tractors could travel over the top. Thirty-two crevasses were identified and remediated that first season, with the largest one taking them three days to fill.



***In The Early 1960s Vehicles Like This Sno-Cat Moving Through The Mountains Of Victoria Land With It's Crevasse Detector Out In Front Like Outstretched Fingers Was Used To Explore The Continent***

The second year, 2003–04, saw the team travel several hundred miles south across the Ross Ice Shelf to the foot of the Leverett Glacier, their portal to the polar plateau. This season they were plagued with a “snow swamp”—an almost 200-mile long area of six-foot deep sugary snow that would not compact under their heavy equipment. Instead of gliding on top of the snow, the ski-equipped sleds would get plowed down into the powder, breaking pins and hitches. Like the heroic explorers from a century before, they would have to unhitch their train of several sleds behind each tractor and then pull only one sled ahead a few miles before going back to fetch the next sled, traveling three miles for every one-mile gained.

The next season, year three, the traverse team encountered a crevasse field at the base of the Leverett Glacier with up to ten crevasses per mile in every direction. How they maneuvered through is a tale of high technology and friends in high places. Once up on the polar plateau, the reader feels their intense frustration when they are instructed by the NSF to return to McMurdo rather than proceed on to the South Pole.

By the fourth and final season, the reader is so fed up with the bureaucracy that so often stymied the team as well as the actual weather and terrain obstacles that you just don't think they, or you, can take any more setbacks. So it is like yet another bully taunting them when they encounter a hundred miles of sastrugi, some up to eight-foot in height, on the polar plateau impeding their momentum for the final stretch to the South Pole.

John Wright's team did accomplish what they set out to do, and they did it without injury or loss of vehicles. Today the South Pole Operations Traverse is known as SPoT in the USAP, and it faithfully follows the route proven by Wright's team. It is not a super highway and still has potential dangers, but the way south is tremendously safer and easier due to the work by these pioneering men and women. SPoT carries enough cargo and fuel to offset up to a dozen Hercules flights, allowing the ski-equipped airplanes to support deep field science camps instead.



***In 2002 This PistenBully Was Adapted For Crevasse Detection Using a 20 Foot Boom Extension With An Inner Tube At It's End. The Ground Penetrating Radar Antenna Rests In The Inner Tube.***

Everyone I know in the USAP fantasizes about being a member of the South Pole Traverse team, if only for a few days. The idea of traveling across the continent is a winsome thought. But talk to someone who has been on the traverse and you will be met by a wide-eyed shaking of the head. The tedium of traveling 1,000 miles at five mph across a vast white plain is not as exciting as one may dream. Unless, of course, you were a member of one of the teams that pioneered the trail. John Wright has superbly told their fascinating tale.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

John H. Wright served as the USAP explosives engineer for five years, executing the South Pole Tunnel project over the course of four years, and later headed the South Pole Traverse Proof-of-Concept project. He has published authoritative engineering articles and presented papers at numerous scientific conferences. He recently was a featured speaker at the 2012 OAEA Reunion in San Diego, California. He lives in Silverton, Colorado.



***John Wright's Dust-Jacket Mug Shot***

**Byrd Station To South Pole Station**



During DF-61 The Navy completed the first American overland traverse to South Pole Station covering 800 miles in 33 days. The traverse, manned by 11 men, consisted of two D-8 tractors, two sled-mounted wannigan huts, three 20-ton sleds, one 10-ton sled, and two tracked Weasels. The purpose of the traverse was to delivery the two D-8s that would be used in maintaining the snow landing strip.

**TRAVERSE PHILATELIC MAIL**

The traverse carried a cardboard box of several hundred philatelic envelopes (covers), stamped and cacheted "Delivered via surface traverse from McMurdo to South Pole". Scotty "The Plumber Dude" Smith prepared the covers. After arriving at the South Pole John held the box aloft for all to see and announced: "The Mail". Scotty accepted his prize and later he and Jerry Marty distributed the covers to every person at South Pole Station.



*McMurdo To South Pole Traverse Cover*



*Photo by John "Scotty" Jackson 2005*

**The crew poses by the marker indicating 90 degrees South on the day after Christmas. From left to right tractors: D8R, Fritz, and the Elephant Man; standing: Greg Feleppa, Richard "Stretch" Vaitonis, the author, and Brad Johnson; kneeling: Russ Magsig, Judy Goldsberry, John Van Vlack, and Tom Lyman.**



## NEW OAEA MEMBERS

The below listed personnel have joined the OAEA since the previous issue of the *Gazette*.

Thanks to Bill Spindler, John Spletstoesser, Harold Gatlin, Michael Spencer, John Stewart, Vici Papajohn, Gus Shinn, and Joe Gogel for recruiting new members or for providing names and contact info for prospective members. If you know of any OAE, or anyone interested in Antarctica, who is not a member of the OAEA please send their contact info to the OAEA Membership Chairman at [upizauf@aol.com](mailto:upizauf@aol.com) or 850 456 3556.

\*Denotes Associate Member

§Denotes Upgrade to Life or Renewal of Annual Member

ΦDenotes Upgrade to Regular Member

Biddlecombe, G. LCDR	Life	NSFA 1977-79
Clarke, Jon LT	Life	VX-6/NSFA Staff 1966-70
Costa, Robert AG1	Life	TF-43 1959-62
Creacy, Arvil AG3	Life	VX-6 WO DF-II
Goren, Lisa CIV	§Annual	Tour Ship Artist 1997
Hansen, Herbert LT	Life	ASA Det Alfa DF-62
Henry, Leilani NOK	§Annual	Father was on USS <i>Bear</i> during USASE
Iacobucci, Richard SN	Life	USCGC <i>Eastwind</i> DF-I
Kapantais, Stephen SN	§Annual	USS <i>Atka</i> 1965-66
Kenney, William ABH3	§Annual	VX-6 1965-66
Landy, Pam NOK	ΦLife	Widow of James & Falklands
Lindstrom, Leif, CAPT	Life	VXE-6 1979-82
Martinez, Nelson AE2	Life	Cruise Ship
McLaren, Alfred CAPT	Life	Groupie/Renewal
Minerman, Charles COL	*§Annual	NSFA Staff
Powell, John LCDR	Life	1960-62
Pruse, Edward CIV	Life	USARP 1973-74
Stephano, Ronald CIV	*Annual	Groupie/Historian
Thorne, John CIV	Life	British Antarctic Survey 1955-58

## SIMON COWELL WANTS A PET PENGUIN

Simon Cowell is a big fan of flippers—and we're not talking about beach gear. *The X Factor* judge apparently likes penguins so much that he said he would love to have one of the flightless birds to call his own.

"Watching *Mr. Poppers Penguins* again," the 52-year-old [tweeted](#) this week. "I love this film. I really do want a pet penguin."

Of course, if Cowell really wanted a penguin—and we're sure he has the cash to afford one—he'd have to purchase an entire zoo as it's not legal to keep a penguin as a domesticated pet in the



United States. Plus, while they can be affectionate, in general they aren't.

Although Cowell can be a little rough and gruff on *The X Factor*, he's actually a huge animal lover. He's created a TV show about pooches—a British reality TV competition series called *That Dog Can Dance*, which searches for exceptional canines

So the next time you hear Cowell drop a zinger on *The X Factor*, remember that he's actually a pussycat—at least when it comes to his love of animals.



## REUNION & MEETING INFORMATION

Send reunion notices to Billy-Ace Baker at 850 456 3556 or [upizauf@aol.com](mailto:upizauf@aol.com) for publication in the *Gazette*

**NMCB-1:** Hampton, VA, 22-24 February 2013. POC Peter Dowd, 781 837 0393, or [mcb1reunion@verizon.net](mailto:mcb1reunion@verizon.net). MCB-1 served during DF-II, IV, and 62.

**American Polar Society:** Woods Hole, MA, 15-18 April 2013. POC Alfred S. McLaren, [alfredsmclaren@aol.com](mailto:alfredsmclaren@aol.com), 303 447 0608.

**USS *Atka* (AGB-3):** Warwick, RI, 25-28 April 2013. POC Carl Brown, [browncarlione@aol.com](mailto:browncarlione@aol.com), or 616.308.4846. USS *Atka* served during DF-II, III, 60, 62, 64, and 66

**NNPU/PM-3A *McMurdo Station*:** Port Hueneme, CA, 6-11 May 2013. POC Charlie Del Hierro, 805 483 4060, or [cbstrchief@verizon.net](mailto:cbstrchief@verizon.net), 1543 N 5<sup>th</sup> St, Port Hueneme CA 93041.

**VX/VXE-6:** Erlanger, KY, 12-15 Jun 2013. POC Joe Hollern, 614 906 6289, [jhollern@wowway.com](mailto:jhollern@wowway.com), or PO Box 1228, Westerville OH 43086.

**ADFA:** New Orleans, LA, 18-20 June 2013. POC Bill Stroup, 100 Pampas Dr, Long Beach MS 39560, [stroup597@aol.com](mailto:stroup597@aol.com), 228 864 3270.

## OAE LOCATOR

Send locator information to the editor by email at [upizauf@aol.com](mailto:upizauf@aol.com), or by snail mail to 10819 Berryhill Road, Pensacola FL 32506, or by phone at 850 456 3556.

- Ron Tissue wintered during DF-IV (1958–59) at McMurdo as an AG2. He would like to hear from other personnel that were there during that time frame. Ron can be reached at: [ron.tissue@gmail.com](mailto:ron.tissue@gmail.com).

- Gordan Macdonald is a building conservator and consultant to the Antarctic Heritage Trust based out of Christchurch, New Zealand. His team is currently preparing to conserve the expedition base of Captain Robert Falcon Scott, near McMurdo Station. In preparation for this work, he is seeking early images of the expedition hut taken by us Navy personnel during the early years of Operation Deep Freeze that are NOT available online. Gordon can be contacted at: PO Box 10 Cobble Hill BC V0R 1L0 Canada, or by phone at: 001 250 743 8840, or by email at: [gord@macdonaldandlawrence.ca](mailto:gord@macdonaldandlawrence.ca).

- Ed Holton was the LPO of NSFA Summer Support Medical Dept. (1987 to 1991). Ed made 3 trips to the Ice and his last deployment was as the senior Medical Dept. rep in Christchurch. He would like to hear from anyone that was on the Ice or in Christchurch during that time. Ed can be reached at: [ed\\_deb00@msn.com](mailto:ed_deb00@msn.com).

- Dave Dubois is still looking for four MIAs from the DF-73 NSFA WO party. The missing members are:

SH3 Charles A Conroy, came from NY state, had orders to USS *White Plains* AFS-4.

CS3 Robert A Jaffe, came from California, discharged after leaving the ice.

AC1 Edward K Johnston, last sighting was in NAS LeMoore, CA in 1984 as a CPO.

SN Stephen Sliss, Known to be living in San Francisco, CA area.

If anyone has any info on any of these men Dave can be contacted at: [ddubois8@maine.rr.com](mailto:ddubois8@maine.rr.com), 489 Morrills Mill Road, North Berwick, ME 03906, or 207 676 2773.

- Diane White is looking for anyone who stayed at the Esplanade Hotel in New Brighton during 1957–58. Her parents, Bob and June White, managed the hotel and she was about 10 at the time. Diane can be reached at: Phone 00 64 3325000, 50 Longhurst Terrace Cashmere, Christchurch 8002 New Zealand, or [inspiration@clear.net.nz](mailto:inspiration@clear.net.nz).

- Paul Clay is trying to locate Pat Sureth who was a 2nd class metal smith in the squadron during the 1964–68 time frame. Paul can be reached at 352 342 5645, 725 NW 117th Ct., Ocala, FL 34482, or [clay34482@centurylink.net](mailto:clay34482@centurylink.net).

- Thierry Cappelle is looking for information about a special flight that took French scientist Claude Lorius from McMurdo to the Russian Vostok Station around Nov-Dec 1984. According to his memories, it was the first, or one of the first flights between the two stations when the Cold War was still on. That flight was of very high importance at that time: Scientific authorities of several countries including the USA, USSR, and France were able to meet at Vostok Station to establish the basis of the cooperation in the field of glaciology and climatology. The subsequent related works helped understand the evolution of the Earth's climate over the past almost one million years and set the forecast ranges of the Earth's climate evolution for the next century. Thierry can be reach by phone at: 33 6 70 76 16 60, or by email at: [tcappelle@gmail.com](mailto:tcappelle@gmail.com)

## GLOSSARY OF SNOW AND ICE

*Compiled and edited by Billy-Ace Baker*



**Ice Rind** — A brittle shiny crust of floating ice, formed on a quite surface by direct freezing or from grease ice, usually in water of low salinity. French equivalent: *Croute de glace, glace en feuille*.

**Ice Rise** — A mass of ice resting on rock and surrounded either by an ice shelf, or partially by an ice shelf and partially by sea. No rock is exposed. Ice rises usually have dome shaped surfaces. Russian equivalent: *Lednikovyy kupol*.

**Ice Skylight** — From the point of view of a diver, thin places in the ice canopy, usually less than three feet thick. Spanish equivalent: *Corriente de hielo*.

**Ice Stream** — Part of an ice sheet in which the ice flows more rapidly and not necessarily in the same direction as the surrounding ice. German equivalent: *Eisstrom*.

## New England Chapter Fall 2012 Meeting

by Marty Diller,

*New England Chapter Secretary-Treasurer,*

**T**he New England Chapter visited yet another old favorite restaurant when they returned to the Yantic River Inn in Norwich, CT, for the Fall meeting. Recently reopened and under new management, the Chapter had not met at the Inn since summer 2006, but 54 OAEs and their guests braved the wet weather to be there. Eager to please, the owner gave us exclusive use of the main dining room and handled his light Saturday afternoon crowd in a smaller area somewhere in back.



**Greeters:** Meetings would be an unorganized failure without volunteer help from folks like Associate members Paula Hall, Mary Pellegrino, and Bev Diller. They make the meeting a true success by greeting all attendees and—among other things—help find their nametags, sell them some raffle tickets and accept payments for the buffet lunch.

The guest speaker at this meeting was member Dick Wolak (1972–80/1992–94, w/o South Pole Station 1975; McM/Pole/Palmer/RV *Hero*), who, with his son Ben, helped lead the support crew for a 8-man Wounded Warrior Project team, which biked coast-to-coast in the June 2012 'Race Across America' event. Dick recounted his team's trials and triumphs in this annual transcontinental bicycle race—a true feat of endurance by these Wounded Warriors—from the west to east coast of the USA.



**Don LeRoi** (right) shows **George Smith** (ASA MCM, w/o DF-67) and **Beverly Diller** the operation and use of his radio-controlled "hexacopter" aerial camera system, which he custom-built for NOAA and then operated on Livingston Island in support of NOAA's annual penguin counts in Antarctica.

As a sidelight for attendees who took interest, Don LeRoi (NSFA Photo Officer 1981–84; USAP/NOAA, Killer Whale Research Team 2004–05 and Marine Wildlife Survey 2010–11) brought his radio-controlled "hexacopter" aerial camera system, a six-propeller device with a camera, which he custom-built for NOAA for use in conducting penguin counts in Antarctica. In a side room, Don answered questions about how he conducted aerial photography over penguin colonies on Livingston Island in January 2011.



**Dick Kopplin** (ASA, Brockton Station and w/o MCM, DF-71; Gales Ferry, CT), **Joe Angerome** (USS *Atka* (AGB-3), DF-IV, DF-61; Bronx, NY) and **Jack Jennings** (VXE-6 DF-71–74; Hope, RI) share a table and tales of their Navy exploits on the Ice.

### Chapter Business

Before this meeting was called to order, Chapter President Fred Santino and Jim Kelly made a presentation of a Chapter plaque for Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) as a token of gratitude for his support of military personnel that may have been repeatedly exposed to radiation leaks from the PM-3A nuclear power plant at McMurdo Station during the 1960s and '70s. Ms. Heather Sandler, a veteran's liaison representative on Senator Blumenthal's staff, accepted the plaque on behalf of the Senator.



**Heather Sandler**, accepts a plaque from **Fred Santino** on behalf of Senator **Blumenthal**.

Another special guest was also introduced by Fred: Mr. Daniel Gross, a Harvard student journalist who came to the meeting to interview Chapter members for a project about Antarctica that he has undertaken. In the meeting Jim Kelly was asked to update attendees on the Veterans Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR) investigation into the McMurdo PM-3A radiation leak issue. Jim advised that the next VBDR meeting is scheduled for March 2013 in Albuquerque, NM. At that meeting, the final technical report on Dose Reconstruction for McMurdo veterans who were potentially exposed to the radiation leaks will be presented.



**Presentation of official Navy photograph of original South Pole Station Seabee construction crew was presented to Charlie 'CB' Bevilacqua.**

Of special note, a new slate of Chapter officers began their 4-year terms of office effective upon meeting adjournment: President Mike Hall, Vice President Nick Pellegrino, and Directors Larry Hunter and Jim Kelly. Also, outgoing President Santino announced he would step into the vacant Chairperson post on the Education Committee.

**Fundraising**

Raffle winners included: Joe Angerome and Peg Lippka (each won a lunch ticket for any future Chapter meeting); Charlie Bevilacqua, Billie Hunter, Jack Jennings, and Dick Kopplin (Dunkin' Donuts \$5 gift card); Pat Benardello (penguin Christmas ornament); Fred Gladstone (National Geographic DVD *Antarctic Wildlife Adventure*); Peter Lahtinen (OAEA-logo ball cap); Don LeRoi (penguin keepsake box); Nancy McKenna (*Journeys to the South Pole* book); Pinky Palsgraf (Antarctic photo CD by Chapter member Russ White and penguin fleece throw). In a special drawing sponsored by our meeting host, Jim Kelly: Charlie Bevilacqua won a Corgi LC-130 die-cast model. A collection of philatelic items and a 1957 National Geographic Antarctica map were won by someone whose name was not recorded.

**Meeting Schedule**

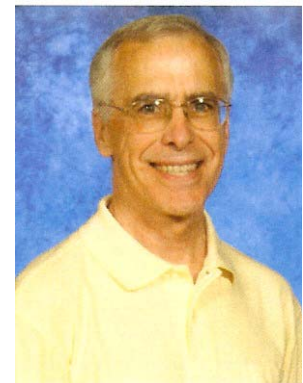
The next OAEA-NE Chapter meeting is scheduled for 12 noon on Saturday, 30 March 2013, at *Pelly's 19th Hole* restaurant in North Kingstown, RI.

**Photo Credits**

All photos were by Bruce Fink ([www.bpfink.com](http://www.bpfink.com)), except the file photo of Dick Wolak and the "Greeters" photo, which was taken by Nick Pellegrino.



**Attendees are enjoying Dick Wolak's presentation about his participation as a support team member for the Wounded Warrior Project Team in the 2012 'Race Across America' – a transcontinental bicycle race from Oceanside, CA to Annapolis, MD.**



**Dick Wolak  
Guest Speaker**

## OAEA Mid-Atlantic Group Gathers in Columbia, Maryland

*By Dian Belanger*

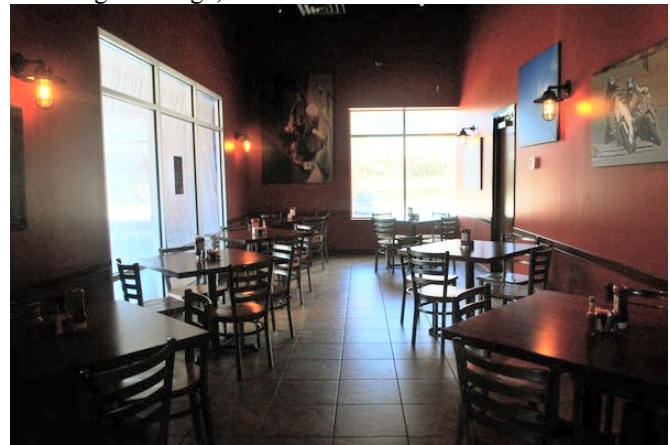
If anyone was disappointed that only seven Antarcticans, plus two family members, showed up for the second meeting of mid-Atlantic OAEs, you'd never know it by the high level of instant camaraderie and lively conversation over lunch at the Frisco Taphouse and Brewery in Columbia, Maryland, on 6 October 2012.

We were a diverse group by any measure:

- Gene Litz was a pilot in Operation Highjump, the largest military exercise in Antarctica ever. You'd never guess that was 65(!) years ago from listening to the well-remembered tales of this sprightly man. He flew the mission that found and rescued the survivors of the fatal PBM crash on Thurston Island.
- Tom Ballard enjoyed the unusual experience of wintering over as a scientist with New Zealanders as well as Americans at the small, bilaterally operated Hallett Station in 1960, excited to go to the Antarctic straight out of college.
- Kelsey Goodman's naval career in the 1960s and '70s included stints as assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Polar and Environmental Affairs, head of Polar Operations under the Oceanographer of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations, and delegate to an Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. On the ice, he piloted helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft with VX-6.
- Kathleen Reedy spent six seasons at McMurdo and South Pole stations between 1996 and 2004 as part of a research team studying the effects of cold on thyroid function and the body's adaptation to polar environments.
- Chris Limon summured and immediately wintered at McMurdo, from October 1993 to October 1994, in the heavy shop, working the parts counter and driving the M4K 4X4 forklift.

- Ted Dettmar racked up 60 months on the ice, 1994–2004, in charge of field training and Search & Rescue, based at McMurdo. He got “mature” novice me into and safely out of the IMAX Crevasse; he's good!
- And I trail with but two summer weeks at McMurdo and South Pole Stations in January 2001. But being there mattered in many inexplicable ways as I researched and wrote *Deep Freeze*, a history of the International Geophysical Year in Antarctica—when systematic science got its start, and never stopped.

So we had practically nothing in common. And everything in common, as Antarcticans straightaway do. The stories and the hours flew. We can't wait to do it again and invite all OAEs in the greater Washington area to join us at our next gathering, which we hope will be soon. Thanks once more to Tom Ballard and Chris Limon for organizing this memorable afternoon. We also enjoyed meeting Chris's wife Maureen and daughter Paige, lovelies both.



*Frisco Taphouse and Brewery Dining Area*



*OAEA Mid-Atlantic Group Attendees*

## Gulf Coast Group Chapter Happenings

by Billy-Ace Penguin Baker

### Saturday 6 October 2012 GCG Meeting—26

Members, guests, and visitors showed up for our monthly meeting. First time attendees were ABC Stan Sukal USN (Ret) and Chris Behan. Stan who wintered over at McMurdo during DF-86 as an ABF1 with NSFA Detachment Alfa Fuels Division. Chris was in VXE-6 as an AMEAA-AME3 from 1983 through 1987. George M. Griffin was the guest and grandson of George E. Griffin. George M. is a Medical Specialist in the US Army and will be deploying to Afghanistan in the near future. Chuck Minerman paid his annual dues. Chuck said that he would be moving to Nevada soon and that he would not be remaining in the OAEA unless there is a chapter or group in Nevada.



**Stan Sukal Before & After**



**Chris Behan Before**

Our guest speaker was Gary Lowery. Gary was recently in a car wreck and he wanted to give his presentation and to go home because he was in pain. Our leader Duck had not arrived, so I introduced Gary and Gary talked about the annual GCG clothing and food drive for the homeless veterans in the Pensacola Area.



**George M. & George E. Griffin**

During Gary's presentation Pam Landy sold 50/50 raffle tickets and Sharon Preston distributed the door prize tickets.

Duck and Raine arrived shortly after Gary had finished his presentation and Raine helped Pam separate the 50/50 raffle tickets and in the process she put the tickets she had purchased into the bucket. Confusion reigned while the tickets were dug out and the natives were getting restless until she found all of her tickets. In the end the drawings were held and Carl Jackson won the 50/50 raffle and took home \$50 as his share. The door prize consisting of a matted 8X10 photograph of an iceberg taken by John Highdon was won by Bill Fazio.

Following the drawings the meeting was concluded. The next meeting will be on 3 November at the Shrimp Basket.

Thanks to Pan and Sharon for distributing the raffle and door prize tickets. Also thanks to our waitress Sarah for taking care of us and volunteering to draw the tickets for the raffles. Thanks to Ed Feeney for donating the iceberg photograph and thanks to Lennie and Mary Lou for taking photos of the attendees

### Saturday 3 November 2012 Meeting—Twenty-Nine

members and guests showed up for a warm Indian Summer day. I expected a much smaller attendance because of the Arts and Craft Show and the Annual Blue Angels Homecoming show. Early Birds were Bruce Mabley, Les Liptak, and Mary Lou Platt. First time attendees were Robert Cox of Cantonment FL. Robert served two tours in VXE-6. The first from 1979–81 and the second from 1992–95. Robert is not yet an OAEA member, but he filled out a membership application and will mail it in when his wife writes him a check.



**Art Ullrich DF-60**



**Becky and L.H.J. McClung. They Won Everything!**

The other first time attendee was Arthur Ullrich and his wife Dot. Art was on NSFA staff as an AG3 from 1957–60. He recently joined the OAEA as a Life Member. The Ullrich's also live in Cantonment.

The guest speaker was Gary Lowery and Gary went over the plans for the GCG clothing and food drive. Gary asked that donors bring their donations to the December GCG meeting or make arrangements with him for pickup/delivery on a different date for anyone who won't be able to make it to the December meeting. A few members brought their donations to today's meeting. Gary went over the types of food that is desirable and not desirable. He also asked for batteries of any type.

While Gary was making his presentation Sharon Preston sold 50/50 tickets and distributed the door prize tickets. Dot Ullrich was asked to draw the 50/50 raffle ticket from the bucket and it was won by Becky McClung and she donated her share of \$55 back to the GCG kitty. The door prizes which consisted of a copy of the Air Force book and DVD and a penguin tote bag was won by LHJ McClung. Thanks to Tom Noel for donating the book and DVD and to Chuck Minerman for donating the tote bag.

Following the drawings there was no further business so the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on the second Saturday of December.

Thanks to everyone who helped out and to Lennie and Mary Lou for taking photos.

**Saturday 8 December 2012 Meeting**—Thirty-Seven members and guests showed up for the December meeting. A great turnout for a warm but cloudy day. I arrived a few minutes later than I usually do and while I was parking several members arrived, so I had plenty of help in unloading my car. I always have a box of merchandise and another box of paperwork, the GCG Chapter flag, and my camera. The only time I ever take any photos is when both Lennie Bourgeois and Mary Lou Platt are absent. Today they were both in attendance, so my camera remained in the box.



**Ella Hoffmaster & Gus Shinn**

The first person to engage me in a conversation was Ella Hoffmaster. Ella is the daughter of Brian Hoffmaster. Ella is 8-years-old and is a first-grader. She is writing a report on Antarctica and she asked me several questions about the ICE. During the rest of the meeting she went around and

asked almost everyone questions about Antarctica in general and their personal Antarctic Experience.

Just about everyone brought their donations for the Pensacola area homeless veterans. By the time Gary Lowery arrived the entire bar top and some of the stools were covered with boxes, plastic bags, and large cans of clothing, food, soap, candles, and so forth.



**Gary Lowery with some of the donations for the Homeless Veterans.**

Several attendees that we have not seen for a long time were Les Darbyshire, and Bob Jones. Guests in attendance were Felix Saino, guest of Les Liptak; Amy Preston, Larry and Sharon's daughter, and Danny Thompson, Sean Baker's foster son D. J.

When most of the attendees were either finished or almost finished with their lunch our First Lady, Raine Talbert passed out the

Door Prize tickets and Pam Landy sold tickets for the 50/50 drawing. Meanwhile the GCG

Chapter President, Duck Talbert introduced the guest speaker, Gary Lowery, who thanked everyone for their donations for the homeless vets.

After Gary finished his presentation he and several of Santa's Helpers started taking everything out to Gary's car and once that was done the drawings were held. The Preston's donated several items for door prizes. Normally I would have used one of the items for today's drawing and saved the other one for a future meeting. However, both of the items had Christmas themes so we had two door prize drawings. Duck asked Ella to draw the door prize tickets from the ice bucket. I didn't get the name of who won the first drawing. But, Art Ullrich won the second drawing. Pam collected \$138 for the 50/50 raffle and Ella drew the winning ticket from the ice bucket. When Duck read off the ticket numbers it was Ella who had the winning ticket and she took home \$69 as her share. I think this is the first time in GCG Chapter history when no one cried foul when the raffle was won by the person drawing the ticket from the bucket.

Once the drawings were held Duck asked if anyone had anything they would like to announce and there were no takers, so the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on 5 January 2013

Thanks to Pam and Rainy for distributing the door prize and raffle tickets and thanks for Lennie and Mary Lou for taking candid photos.

## OAEA FY2012 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT

I certify that the attached report is a true accounting of financial transactions conducted by the Old Antarctic Explorers Association, Inc during FY 2012 (1 Oct 11 to 30 Sep 12) as of 30 September 2012

*Cyril Buehler*  
Cyril Buehler  
Treasurer

FY 2012 ACCOUNTING STATEMENT			
INCOME		EXPENSE	
<b>Donations</b>	<b>3305.50</b>	<b>Administration</b>	<b>3520.35</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	631.00	<b>Office Supplies</b>	1234.74
<b>Scholarships</b>	687.00	<b>Advertising/Recruit</b>	1835.00
<b>Undesignated</b>	1987.50	<b>Postage</b>	450.61
<b>Dues</b>	<b>6527.50</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>3127.69</b>
<b>Life</b>	5680.00	<b>Web Page</b>	<b>259.88</b>
<b>Annual</b>	520.00	<b>Newsletter Reunion</b>	<b>1300.05</b>
<b>Enrollment Fee</b>	327.50	<b>Ballots</b>	<b>959.14</b>
<b>Merchandise Sales</b>	<b>754.14</b>	<b>Bank Fee</b>	<b>68.15</b>
<b>Interest</b>	<b>66.60</b>	<b>Florida License</b>	<b>70.00</b>
<b>Trans fm scholarship</b>	<b>2100.00</b>	<b>Scholarships</b>	<b>2500.00</b>
<b>Invest Market</b>	<b>733.70</b>	<b>Video</b>	<b>400.00</b>
		<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>3643.05</b>
		<b>Reunion Loan</b>	<b>3000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13478.44</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>18848.31</b>
		<b>GAIN</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
			<b>5360.87</b>
FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2012			
Summary Statement		Asset Distribution Statement	
Beginning Balance 10/1/11	57729.58	<b>Account</b>	<b>Tangible</b>
FY 2012 Transactions	(5369.87)	Bank Accounts	<b>23831.81</b>
Ending Balance 9/30/12	52359.71	Scholarship Mutual Fund	<b>25437.14</b>
		Ships Store	<b>2000.00</b>
		Property (Undepreciated)	<b>910.76</b>
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>51448.95</b>
			<b>910.76</b>
MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF OLD ANTARCTIC EXPLORERS ASSOCIATION, INC. As of 19 November 2012			
Total Membership all categories: 1828			
Memorial Members – 62		Commemorative Members – 64	
Lifetime Members – 1426		Annual Members – 79	
		Deceased Members – 197	